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THE LEVELS

Leitch's Wharf

Private

late 19th c., and
early 20th c.

The name of this farm is derived from a 17th century patent of land laid out for John Bagby in 1653. The tract came to be called "God's Grace Levels" for the peninsula of level land jutting into the Patuxent River.

A main farmhouse and two substantial tenant houses, all L-shaped, two-story frame structures, make up the farm. The main house appears to have originated as a side-hall, single parlor house. Later a parlor was added to the other side of the stair and a central cross-gable pediment was built. A handsome porch featuring turned posts and scrollwork braces spans the front. The rear section forming the "L" appears to be a later addition.

One of the tenant houses has two gable-roofed sections, while the other is composed of a large hipped-roof block followed by two one-story gable-roofed sections.

(Capsule)

The Levels Farm

There are several outbuildings at the Levels Farm, including two early Twentieth Century tenant houses. The hipped roof house is the most noteworthy of the two, not only because of its somewhat unusual shape but because it contains in its telescopic south wing a single story cabin. Many believe this to be a mid Nineteenth Century structure that was the home of William C. Wood.

The interior has been renovated recently and the foundations modernized making structural analysis difficult. SS6/111, however, does document Wood's presence in this neighborhood at least in 1883, and it shows him as the grantor Israel Hutchins (see "Hutchins Farm Ruins CLVT-)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CLVT 123

Mag. # 0501235635

CT-123

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Levels Farm

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Leitchs Road (Leitches Wharf Road)

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

☒ VICINITY OF Patuxent River

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Benjamin Ridgely

Telephone #: 535-1681

STREET & NUMBER

Levels

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

☐ VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Courthouse

Liber #: JLB 56/244

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☒ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☐ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Oral history says that the main house of this large farm was the Anderson home, and that it was built by Thomas Anderson. His name is inscribed on the wall in a downstairs closet located in the central portion of the house. In the complicated title history of the several parcels which make up the farm, it seems as though the house is on Parcel #3, which contains 200 acres (AWR 5/227). AWR 8/175 (May 14, 1880) shows Thomas F. and Charles H. Anderson selling 200 acres to Thomas L. Hutchins, which they had inherited from their mother Margaret Anderson. Family history cites her as the widow of Thomas Anderson the builder of the central block. Oral history relates that Mrs. Thomas L. Hutchins said that the house was standing in the 1850's. AWR 8/175 suggests that the Andersons acquired the property from Virgil and Mary Jane Gantt in 1858.

The name of the Levels farm is derived from a Seventh Century patent originally laid out for John Bagby in 1653. It was called "Gods' Grace." The large patent included the neck formed by the Patuxent and Hunting Creek and extended as far south as Ramsy Creek, once known as Bagbys Creek. "God Graces Leall", for level, appears as early as 1701 and is referred to in later deeds of the Eighteenth Century. One such reference concerns 687 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres belonging to Benjamin Mackall in 1792. Benjamin Mackall was a member of the Maryland Convention of 1776 and according to Ridgely's Historic Graves of Maryland and Virginia, he is buried at "God's Grace." The point of land which juts out into the Patuxent River in this neighborhood still bears that name. The flatlands or levels which lie between the river and central ridge bear that name as well as AWR 8/175 (May 14, 1880) refers to the Anderson property as, "part of a tract called God's Graces Levels."

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are several outbuildings at the Levels Farm, including two early Twentieth Century tenant houses. The hipped roof house is the most noteworthy of the two, not only because of its somewhat unusual shape but because it contains in its telescopic south wing a single story cabin. Many believe this to be a mid Nineteenth Century structure that was the home of William C. Wood.

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Wayne L. Nield II

Winter 76-77

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

C/O Planning Office

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

JLB 56/244 March 27, 1963

Silas W. Bowen--Ben T. Ridgely
Four parcels
312 acres Parcel 4 is "Lot #1" in Equity "92"

JLB 25/184 May 29, 1959

Beulah Bruehl--Ridgely
Four parcels

JLB 25/180

Murray Hill Company--Beulah Bruehl and Ridgely
Subject to life estate of Joseph William Sunderland

a. Parcels 1-3
AWR 8/227

b. Parcel 4
AWR 12/265

A. Parcels 1-3

AWR 8/227 August 24, 1946
Clarence T. and Annie Hutchins et al.
Annie H. Sunderland, Elliott H. Hutchins, and Amos F. Hutchins.

1. 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres
2. 99 acres
3. 200 acres

JS 1/359 July 20, 1888
AWR 8/175
+
Willbook AAH 1/374

Thomas L. Hutchins, December 4, 1924
Children: Vertre B. Ward
Bessie W. King
Clarence T. Hutchins
Elliott H. Hutchins
Amos F. Hutchins
Annie, T. Hutchins

JS 1/359 July 20, 1888
John P. Briscoe--Annie M. and Thomas R. Hutchins via equity July 16 in
partition of Holdsworth Bowen estate.
Lot #2 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres
+
9 acres of woodland

JS 1/358
Briscoe--Julia V. Boyd
Lot #3
AWR 8/175 (May 14, 1880)
Thomas F. and Charles H. Anderson--Thomas C. Hutchins (2/3 interest in all
that tract of land upon which we now reside.)
Part of tract called "God's Graces Levels", 200 acres inherited by them and
their mother Margaret Anderson (widow of Thomas Anderson.)

Willbook AAH 1/374 (December 4, 1924)

Thomas L. Hutchins divides estate evenly between his children.
(See above list)

B. Parcel 4

AWR 12/265 (September 3, 1947)

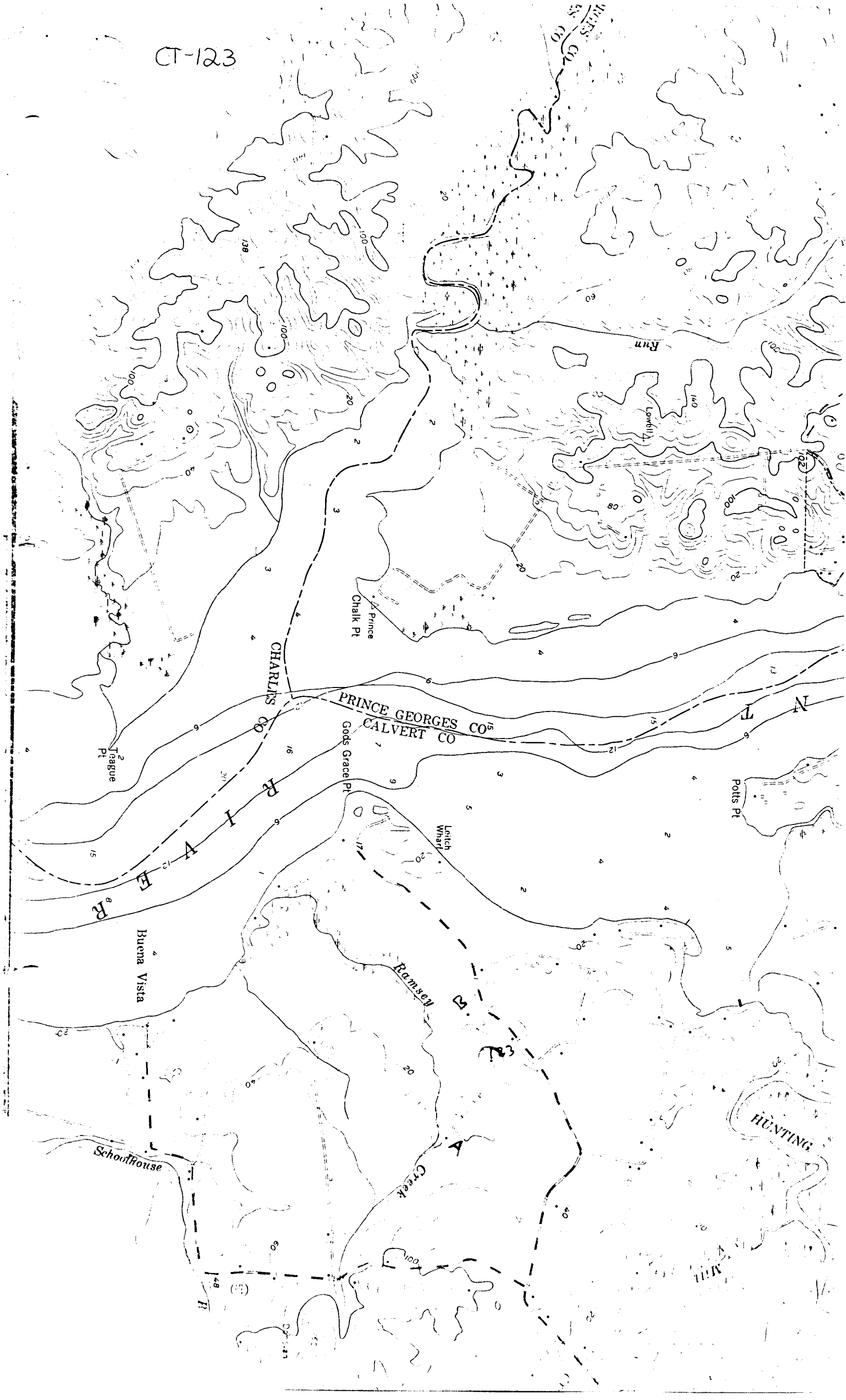
Sallie A. Sheckells and Effie D. Bowen--Elliott H. Hutchins, Amos F. Hutchins,
and Annie H. Sunderland

Lot #1 in Equity #92

[illegible][illegible]

Wayne L. Nield, II
Historic Sites Survey
Broomes Island, Maryland 20615
586-2950

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Wayne L. Nield, II
Historic Sites Survey
Broomes Island April 2001

The Levels Farm



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~~CLV 4-123~~

The Levels

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~~CLVT-123~~

The Levels

Wayne L. Nield, II
Historic Sites & ~~Landmarks~~
Bromwich Island ~~1985~~



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The Levels

Wayne L. Nield, II
Historic Sites Survey
Broomes Island, Maryland 20415
556-2050

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